

those which are useful for providing tack free surface cures of polymers by organic peroxides in the presence of air.

1. In response to the election requirement, applicant hereby elects the species of Claim 1 where compound (A) is a bismaleimide and compound (B) is a sulfur accelerator, as claimed, for example in Claims 7, 18, 21 and 22. Claims readable on the elected species are Claims 1-7 and 12-27.

2. The elected species is not anticipated by or obvious over JP 61014238. The Japanese patent concerns a sulfur cure of natural rubber by elemental sulfur, whereas applicant's invention concerns a composition containing a sulfur accelerator (not elemental sulfur) which allows tack free surface cures of elastomers by peroxides in the presence of air. No peroxides are listed in the Japanese patent. Applicant demonstrates in Table 12 of his application (invention example 2 versus comparative examples 7-10) that his compositions provide greatly improved compression sets versus sulfur cures. Withdrawal of the election requirement is thus clearly in order.

Action on and allowance of Claims 1-27 at an early date is now respectfully requested.

No claims fee accompanies this amendment since no increase has been made in the number of total or independent claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2/24/03



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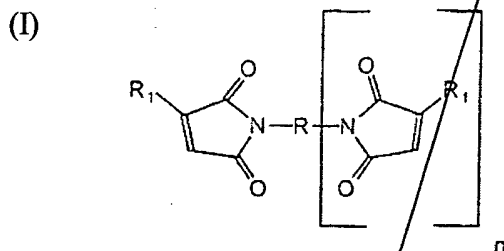
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Attachment: Amended Claim 1

Clean Copy of Amended Claim 1:

1. (amended) A composition useful for providing tack free surface cures of polymers by organic peroxides in the presence of air comprising:

a) At least one compound (A) selected from the group consisting of silicone elastomers and a compound having the formula (I):



Wherein n is 1, or 2 and  $R^1$  is divalent, or trivalent and is selected from the group consisting of cyclic aliphatic groups having from about 2 to 16 carbon atoms, cyclic aliphatic groups having from about 5 to 20 carbon atoms, aromatic groups having from about 6 to 18 carbon atoms and alkyl aromatic groups having from about 7 to 24 carbon atoms, and wherein the divalent, or trivalent groups may contain one or more heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, replacing a carbon atom, or carbon atoms and each  $R^1$  is identical and is hydrogen or an alkyl group of 1 to 18 carbon atoms; and

b) At least one compound (B) selected from the group consisting of p-phenylenediamine based antioxidants and sulfur containing organic compounds selected from the group consisting of sulfur containing organic compounds capable of accelerating sulfur vulcanization of a polymer capable of being crosslinked by sulfur, polysulfide polymers and mixtures of said sulfur containing compounds.